

REMARKS

Reconsideration of this application, as presently amended, is respectfully requested. Claims 1-10 are now pending in this application, claim 11 having been cancelled by the present Amendment. Claims 1-10 were allowed. Claim 11 was rejected.

In view of the cancellation of claim 11, all pending claims should now be in condition for allowance.

Claim Rejections – 35 U.S.C. §102

Claim 11 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by **Yamazaki et al.** (USP 6,038,018).

In view of the cancellation of claim 11, it is submitted that the rejection under §102 is rendered moot.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing amendments and accompanying remarks, it is submitted that all pending claims are in condition for allowance. A prompt and favorable reconsideration of the rejection and an indication of allowability of all pending claims are earnestly solicited.

If the Examiner believes that there are issues remaining to be resolved in this application, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned attorney at the telephone number indicated below to arrange for an interview to expedite and complete prosecution of this case.

Application No. 10/697,647
Art Unit: 2821

Amendment under 37 C.F.R. §1.116
Attorney Docket No.: 032082

If this paper is not timely filed, Applicants respectfully petition for an appropriate extension of time. The fees for such an extension or any other fees that may be due with respect to this paper may be charged to Deposit Account No. 50-2866.

Respectfully submitted,
WESTERMAN, HATTORI, DANIELS & ADRIAN, LLP

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "William M. Schertler". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "William" and last name "Schertler" clearly legible.

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